

**Murray History Advisory Board  
Minutes for September 27, 2011**

Attendance: David Adams, Peter Steele, Wendy DeMann, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)

Excused: Jay Bollwinkle

1. Minutes for August 23, 2011 were approved as written. Wendy will talk to a potential board member.
2. The museum exhibit is completed and was reviewed by our grantors. They felt our exhibit was well done. We had 6 visitors at museum day. Students and teachers who have come on school tours have loved it. Mary Ann noted that this new exhibit was a learning process and will be helpful on future exhibits. It takes a long time to research the artifacts properly. Mary Ann encouraged board members to visit the new exhibit.
3. A touring production that has a little history related focus on local storytelling and music is scheduled for Friday, October 7 at 7 pm at the Heritage Center.
4. Mary Ann reviewed the various publications and products that have been produced and are currently available for sale. Mary Ann asked if the pricing was still appropriate. The smelter VHS tape will decay over time and we have a new DVD update so we have been giving these out for free. Board members suggested a two-for-one combination during December and May could help move the product a little better. Peter suggested we would charge them for the most expensive and then they can choose another one of equal or lesser value for free. Wendy noted that maybe we could give a discount if people bring in a historic photo. Mary Ann mentioned that we have given awards out in the past for the best photo donated during the year. At some point in the future, we may want to do another formal history of the city because the last one done in the 1990s had some problems. We are basically out of these books. Peter will read it to see if it truly reflects the various city transitions from agricultural to industrial to part of a metropolitan setting. Our focus should be on areas where research is lacking. The library should consider a history since this is their 100 year celebration. Oral histories are still a need.
5. A demo request for 4594 Cherry Street was discussed. This is an A building with some significant history. Mary Ann talked with the owner about using the building for an office but this wouldn't work in the proposed use. The home is located in an industrial area and the property will be used as part of the parking and storage areas. This area use to feature many nice homes but started to deteriorate when the freeway went it and it was zoned as industrial. Mary Ann explained the city ordinance does not protect buildings on the local register from demolition but the board is responsible to make sure the building is properly documented. She has received photos of the exterior and has requested photos of historic features in the interior. She has encouraged the company who is doing the demolition to salvage historic materials that could be used on other historic buildings. Board members felt this was adequate documentation. Wendy noted that we need to do a better job of educating historic home owners of what we are looking for if they update

their buildings. She didn't think of salvaging historic materials when she updated her own home.

6. Vintage Days ideas were reviewed. May and September are typically the months we have history activities. Board members explored ideas to encourage better attendance. Wendy felt that bringing students to a central school location would work well. Mary Ann was concerned that this prevents the public from participating. The amphitheater doesn't work very well because the amphitheater entrance design prevents separating people from those who are coming to a free event and those who are paying to come to a concert. Mary Ann felt that Fun Days has the best public potential. Wendy was willing to ask her group if they would be available on that day. Wendy designed demonstrations described in early Murray history. A suggestion was made to include early colorful figures like Ian suggested last month and possibly have them roam through the audience and push them toward the demonstration area. If this works for Fun Days, we could host a walking tour along 4800 South in May.
7. Next month we will review our registry and potential landmarks. As we are putting the registry on line, Peter said the county recorder's office has a research function that often has historic photos.